

C & EE 141

Bolted Connections

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Important Sections to Read

- AISC 360-10 Specification Chapter J.3
- AISC 360-10 Commentary Chapter J.3
- Part 7 of AISC SCM
- Textbook Chapter 10

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Bolted Connections

- **EXTREMELY IMPORTANT TOPIC!!!!**
 - Inadequate connection design is the cause of many structural failures
 - I-35W Bridge 2007
- East Coast vs. West Coast
 - East: Connection design delegated to steel detailer
 - West: Connection design by S.E. for structure



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Why Use Bolted Connections?

- Very Cost Effective
 - Less skilled labor required than welding
 - Reduced erection time versus welding
 - Simple to learn installation procedure

Types of Bolts

- Unfinished Bolts
 - ASTM A307
 - Similar steel properties to A36 steel
 - Used for light/secondary structures with static loads
 - Also known as “machine bolts”



Types of Bolts

- High-Strength Bolts
 - ASTM A325: Heat-treated medium carbon steel
 - ASTM A490: Heat-treated alloy steel
 - Higher strength than unfinished bolts
 - Used for primary structure
 - Don't become loose over time from vibration



Design Strength of Fasteners

Concept of High Strength Bolts

- Subject the bolt to a high tensile force by tightening the nut
- Tension force puts an equal compression force on the connected parts
- Shear resistance can be provided by the bolt via the tension force and the coefficient of friction at the faying surfaces
- Once the applied shear force exceeds the slip resistance, the bolt relies on shear of the bolt shaft and bearing resistance

Amount of Tensioning Required?

- Snug Tight
- Full Pretension
- Slip Critical

Snug Tight (Not Pretensioned)

- Use when slip-resistance not required or when bolts are not subject to direct tension
- Typical “gravity” framing connections
- Installation method
 - Defined as “when all plies in a joint are in firm contact”
 - Few impacts of torque wrench or full effort of one man using an ordinary spud wrench

Pretensioned

- Pretensioned (70% of bolt ultimate tensile capacity)
 - Table J3.1
 - Used for connections with load reversal (seismic)
 - Used for connections subject to tensile fatigue
- Installation Methods
 - Turn-of-the-nut tightening
 - Calibrated torque wrench tightening
 - Direct tension indicator
 - “Twist-off” bolts

Slip Critical

- Slip-Critical Joints (fully pretensioned)
 - Required for connections involving shear or combined shear and tension (with load reversal)
- Special preparation of faying surfaces between connected parts
- Installation Methods
 - Same as pretensioned

Minimum Bolt Pretension

TABLE J3.1
Minimum Bolt Pretension, kips*

Bolt Size, in.	Group A (e.g., A325 Bolts)	Group B (e.g., A490 Bolts)
1/2	12	15
5/8	19	24
3/4	28	36
7/8	39	49
1	51	64
1 1/8	56	80
1 1/4	71	102
1 3/8	85	121
1 1/2	103	148

*Equal to 0.70 times the minimum tensile strength of bolts, rounded off to nearest kip, as specified in ASTM specifications for A325 and A490 bolts with UNC threads.

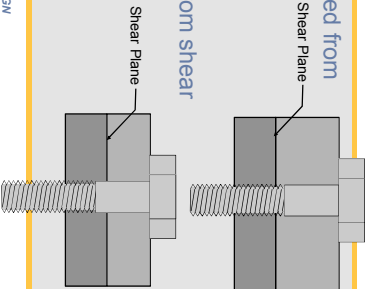
Common High Strength Bolt Designations

- A325-N & A490-N
 - Snug tight or bearing bolts with threads included (Not excluded) in the shear plane
- A325-X & A490-X
 - Snug tight or bearing bolts with threads excluded from the shear plane
- A325-SC & A490-SC
 - Slip-critical bolts



-N and -X Designations

- -N: Threads Not excluded from shear plane
- -X: Threads excluded from shear plane



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from shear planes		
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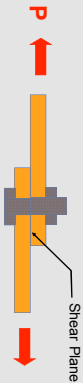
Connection Types

- Simple Bolted Connections
 - Line of action of the forces coincidental with the “center of gravity” (workpoint) of the bolt group
- Eccentric Bolted Connections
 - Line of action of the forces not coincidental with the “center of gravity” (workpoint) of the bolt group
 - Subject of later lecture

- # Connection Types
- Simple Bolted Connections
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 - Eccentric Bolted Connections
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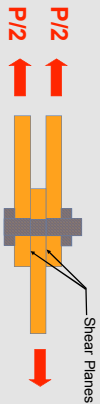
Joint Types

- Lap Joint (bolts in single shear)



$$f_v = \frac{P}{A_{bolts}}$$

- Butt Joint (bolts in double shear)



$$f_v = \frac{P}{2 * A_{bolts}}$$

Failure of Bolted Joints

- Shear failure of bolts (a & e)
- Tensile failure of the net section (b)
- Bearing failure of bolts and/or member (c)
- Shear failure of member due to insufficient "end distance" (d)
- Block shear (not shown)

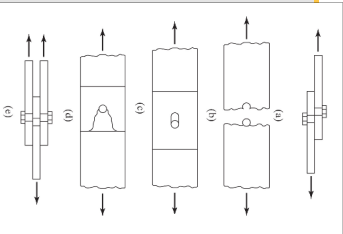
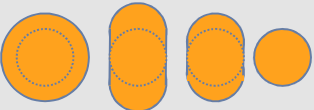


Figure 12.2 (a) Failure by shear of bolts; (b) Tension failure of bolts; (c) Bearing failure of bolts; (d) Shear failure of member; (e) Block shear failure of member.

Size and Use of Holes

- Standard Holes
 - 1/16" oversized
- Short-Slotted Holes
 - 1/16" oversized in one direction and slot perpendicular to direction of loading for bearing connections
 - Slot orientation not limited for slip-critical connections
- Long-Slotted Holes
 - 1/16" oversized in one direction and slot perpendicular to direction of loading for bearing connections
 - Slot orientation not limited for slip-critical connections
- Over-Sized Holes
 - Larger than 1/16" oversized all around bolt
 - Do not use in bearing connections



Tension or Shear
Strength of Bolts

$R_n = F_t (\# \text{ bolts}) A_{bolt}$

- Applicable to snug-tight or pretensioned
- Section J3.6, Eq J3-1 where $\phi = 0.75$
- F_t = Nominal tensile strength per Table J3.2
 - A307 = 45 ksi
 - A325 = 90 ksi (threads), 90 ksi (no threads)
 - A490 = 113 ksi (threads), 113 ksi (no threads)
- F_{nv} = Nominal shear strength per Table J3.2
 - A307 = 24 ksi
 - A325 = 48 ksi (threads), 60 ksi (no threads)
 - A490 = 60 ksi (threads), 75 ksi (no threads)

Combined Tension and
Shear Strength of Bolts

$R_n = F_t' (\# \text{ bolts}) A_{bolt}$

- Applicable to snug-tight or pretensioned (bearing connections)
- Section J3.7, Eq J3-2 where $\phi = 0.75$
- $F_t' = 1.3 F_{nt} - (F_{nt}/\phi F_{nv}) f_{nv} \leq F_{nt}$ (J3-3a for LRFD)
- f_{nv} = required shear stress
- When the required stress in shear or tension is less than or equal to 30% of the corresponding available stress, the effects of combined stress need not be investigated.

Resistance of Slip-Critical
Connections

$R_n = \mu D_u h_r T_b n_s$

- Applicable to fully pretensioned connections with prepared faying surfaces; still must check strength according to J3.6 and J3.7
- Section J3.8, Eq J3-4 where
 - $\phi = 1.00$ for standard and short-slotted holes perpendicular to direction of load
 - $\phi = 0.85$ for oversized and short-slotted holes parallel to direction of load
 - $\phi = 0.70$ for long-slotted
- μ = mean slip coefficient for Class A or B surfaces
 - 0.30 for Class A (unpainted clean mill scale steel,...)
 - 0.50 for Class B (unpainted blast cleaned steel,...)
- D_u = 1.13 ratio of specified to average bolt pretension
- h_r = factor for fillers
 - 1.00 for no filler plates or 1 filler plate
 - 0.85 for multiple filler plates
- T_b = minimum fastener tension per Table J3.1
- n_s = number of slip planes (shear planes)

Combined Tension and Shear in Slip-Critical Connections

- The applied tension reduces the net clamping force
- See Section J3.9
- Multiply the slip resistance of each bolt by:
 - $k_{sc} = 1 - (T_u/D_u T_p n_b)$ Eq J3-5a for LRFD
 - T_u = required tension force using LRFD
 - n_b = number of bolts carrying applied tension

Bearing Strength at Bolt Holes

- Section J3.10 where $\phi = 0.75$
- For most types of holes (except as noted below):
 - When deformation at the bolt hole at service load is a design consideration:
 - $R_n = 1.2 l_e F_u \leq 2.4 dt F_u$
 - When deformation at the bolt hole at service load is not a design consideration:
 - $R_n = 1.5 l_e F_u \leq 3.0 dt F_u$
- For long-slotted holes with the slot perpendicular to the direction of force:
 - $R_n = 1.0 l_e F_u \leq 2.0 dt F_u$

Bearing Strength at Bolt Holes

- Where:
 - d = nominal bolt diameter
 - F_u = specified minimum tensile strength of the connected material
 - l_e = clear distance, in the direction of force, between the edge of the hole and the edge of the adjacent hole or edge of the material
 - t = thickness of the connected material

Part 7: Design Tables

Table 7-1
Available Shear
Strength of Bolts, kips

Table 7-1 Available Shear Strength of Bolts, kips																	
Nominal Bolt Diameter, d, in.																	
Nominal Bolt Area, in. ²																	
0.307																	
0.442																	
0.601																	
0.785																	
1																	
ASTM Design	Thread Cond.	F_y/f_y (ksi)		ϕF_u (ksi)	Load- ing	f_u/f_y		ϕf_u		f_u/f_y		ϕf_u		f_u/f_y		ϕf_u	
		ASD	LRFD			ASD	LRFD	ASD	LRFD	ASD	LRFD	ASD	LRFD				
Group A	N	27.0	40.5	S	8.29	12.4	11.9	17.9	16.2	24.3	21.2	31.8	28.4	40.7	36.7	53.9	49.0
	D	16.6	24.9	S	10.4	15.7	15.0	22.5	20.4	30.7	28.7	42.4	39.3	58.7	54.7	81.9	77.0
	X	34.0	51.0	D	20.9	31.3	30.1	45.1	40.9	61.3	55.4	80.1	73.2	108.0	100.0	147.0	137.0
Group B	N	34.0	51.0	S	10.4	15.7	15.0	22.5	20.4	30.7	28.7	42.4	39.3	58.7	54.7	81.9	77.0
	D	16.6	24.9	S	10.4	15.7	15.0	22.5	20.4	30.7	28.7	42.4	39.3	58.7	54.7	81.9	77.0
	X	34.0	51.0	D	20.9	31.3	30.1	45.1	40.9	61.3	55.4	80.1	73.2	108.0	100.0	147.0	137.0
AS307	-	13.5	20.3	S	8.29	12.4	11.9	17.9	16.2	24.3	21.2	31.8	28.4	40.7	36.7	53.9	49.0
	D	8.29	12.5	D	8.29	12.5	11.9	17.9	16.2	24.4	21.2	31.9	28.5	40.8	36.8	54.0	49.1

Table 7-2
Available Tensile
Strength of Bolts, kips

Nominal Bolt Diameter, d, in.													
Nominal Bolt Area, m^2													
%													
3%													
7%													
1													
ASTM Design:													
A507		F_u/F_t (ksi)	ϕF_u (ksi)	m/A_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m
Group A		45.0	67.5	13.8	20.7	19.9	29.8	37.1	40.6	35.3	53.0	68.6	
Group B		54.5	84.8	17.3	25.0	27.6	37.4	51.0	41.4	68.6			
A507		22.5	33.8	6.90	10.4	9.94	14.9	13.5	20.3	17.7	26.5		
Nominal Bolt Diameter, d, in.													
Nominal Bolt Area, m^2													
0.984													
1.23													
1.76													
1.77													
ASTM Design:													
A507		F_u/F_t (ksi)	ϕF_u (ksi)	m/A_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m	F_u/F_t	ϕ/m
Group A		45.0	67.5	13.8	20.7	19.9	29.8	37.1	40.6	35.3	53.0	68.6	
Group B		54.5	84.8	17.3	25.0	27.6	37.4	51.0	41.4	68.6			
A507		22.5	33.8	6.90	10.4	9.94	14.9	13.5	20.3	17.7	26.5		

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Examples of Block Shear

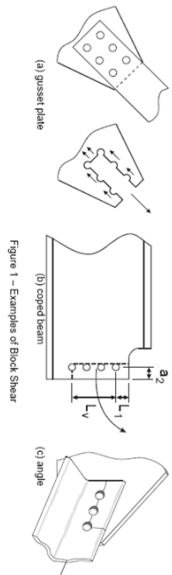
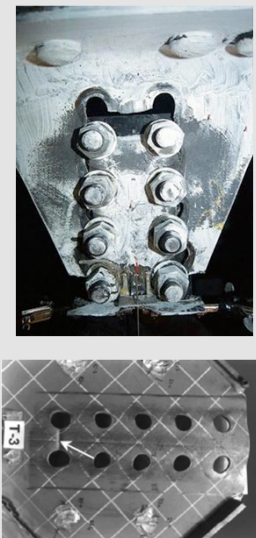


Figure 1 - Examples of Block Shear

Block Shear Failure Tests



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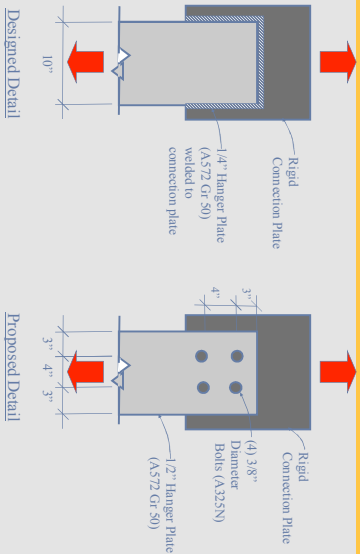
Questions?

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Example Problem from Tension Members Lecture

- You have designed a welded connection detail for the hanger plate shown in the figure labeled "Designed Detail".
- You utilized a welded connection in order to develop the full tensile capacity of the plate.
- The contractor doesn't want to weld the connection so he proposed a bolted connection shown in the figure labeled "Proposed Detail".
- The contractor is aware that the bolts will decrease the capacity of the plate hanger so he proposes thickening the hanger plate as indicated.
- Will you approve of the bolted connection in lieu of the welded connection? Provide all necessary calculations to justify your response.
- **WHAT ABOUT THE CAPACITY OF THE BOLTS?**

Example Problem from Tension Members Lecture



Example Problem from Tension Members Lecture

A572 Grade 50 Steel
 $F_y = 50 \text{ ksi}$
 $F_u = 65 \text{ ksi}$

Strength of Original Plate:
yielding: $A_g = \frac{1}{2} \cdot 10' = 2.5 \text{ in}^2$

$\phi P_n = \phi F_y \cdot A_g$
 $= 0.9 \cdot 50 \text{ ksi} \cdot 2.5 \text{ in}^2$
 $= 113 \text{ kips}$

Designed Detail

Example Problem from Tension Members Lecture

10"

CONNECTION APPROVED SINCE
 ΦP_n (proposed) > ΦP_n (original)
219 kips > 113 kips

3" 4" 3"

WHAT ABOUT THE CAPACITY OF THE BOLTS?

Designed Detail

Proposed Detail

Example Problem Continued (Capacity of the Bolts)

(4) 3/8" dia A325-N Bolts

Bearing Capacity of Bolts

$\Phi R_n = \Phi 1.2 L_t F_u N_{tens} \leq \Phi 2.4 d t F_u N_{tens}$

$= (0.75) 1.2 (3" - 7/32") (0.5") (65 \text{ ksi}) (4)$

$= 325 \text{ kips (conservative)}$

$= (0.75) 2.4 (3/8") (0.5") (65 \text{ ksi}) (4)$

$= 88 \text{ kips (governs for bearing)}$

Shear Capacity of Bolts

$\Phi P_n = \Phi F_u A_n N_{shear}$

$= (0.75) (64 \text{ ksi}) (0.11 \text{ in}^2) (4)$

$= 17.8 \text{ kips}$

Connection Capacity Limited by Bolts

$\Phi P_n = 17.8 \text{ kips}$

DO NOT APPROVE THE CONNECTION

3" 4" 3"

Proposed Detail
